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TAGS: [FAO](#) [EFIN](#) [AORC](#) [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [KUNR](#) [UN](#) [RS](#)
SUBJECT: RUSSIA SUPPORTS US POSITION ON FAO BUDGET

REF: STATE 096467

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor Susan M. Elliott for reason
s: 1.4 (b), (d).

11. (C) Embassy Moscow delivered reftel points to Valery I. Yudin, Administrative and Budgetary Expert in the MFA's International Organizations Department. Yudin stated that Russia fully supported the U.S. position advocating for zero nominal growth in the FAO budget cycle 2010-2011. He commented that the FAO's financial situation seemed "precarious" and, in the current global economic crisis, it was "nonsense" to request an increase of this magnitude. He agreed that the FAO needed to pursue budgetary reforms.

12. (C) Noting that Russia joined the FAO in 2007 and for the first time was participating in budgetary discussions, Yudin said that he personally would travel to Rome for the upcoming meetings. He commented that Russia had applied to join the FAO Finance Committee and looked forward to becoming a member next year.
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